India's participation in International Trade Fair

2648. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what .ire the names of countries in which .nternatio.ial trade fairs were held in 1991-92 and in which India participated;

(b) what are the names of countries where trade fairs are likely to be held in 1992-93 and in which India is likely to participate; and

(c) what criteria / procedure has been laid down by Government for granting permission to intending participants?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) During 1991-92, TFAI organised participation in fairs and exhibitions held in the following 29 countries:—

Czechoslovakia, China, Venezuela. Zimbabwe, Germany, Poland, Turkey, Syria, Hungary, Kenya, Iran, Malaysia, Chile, Angola, Bahrain, Vietnam, Russia, Uzbekistan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Ghana, U.K., Hong Kong, Australia, Italy, USA, France & Namibia

(b) During 1992-93, TFAI's proposed programme covers participation in fairs to be held in the following 28 countries:—

Germany, UK, Italy, Turkey. France, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Romania, USA Syria, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, China, Malaysia, Vietnam. South Korea, Hong Kong, Australia, Singapore, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Senegal, Mauritius and Dubai

(c) Participation in trade fairs abroad is open to all registered exporters and manufacturer exporters. TFAI has constituted for large / important fairs, specific Task Forces consisting of representatives from TFAI, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of External Affairs, Federation of Indian Export Organisations, Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Export Promotion Councils, Confederation of Engineering Industry, etc. for proper guidance on various aspects relating to participation in a fair. The choice of products and selection of participants is finalised by the Task Force after taking into consideration the export potential for specific commodities and the capabilities of the manufacturing units to meet the market requirements and all other relevant factors.

Also, upto 25% of the available space is utilised for allocation to upcoming and new exhibitors and 5% to women entrepreneurs.

Promoting Indo-USSR Trade

2649. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the areas of exports and imports proposed for promoting Indo-USSR trade;

(b) whether some high level talks are still going on or were held recently to expand trade between both the countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor? »

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Exports to USSR include agricultural products, minerals and ores, chemicals and allied products, leather and leather manufactures, engineering goods, textiles, etc. Imports from USSR include machinery equipment and spares, crude oil and petroleum products, fertilizers, chemicals and pharmaceutical products, steel products, non-ferrous metals, etc.

(b) and (c) The Minister for External Affairs recently visited the Soviet Union and held wide ranging discussions with the Soviet Government and with the leadership of the Russian Federation. An official delegation has also visited the Soviet Republics of Uzbekistan, Kazakistan